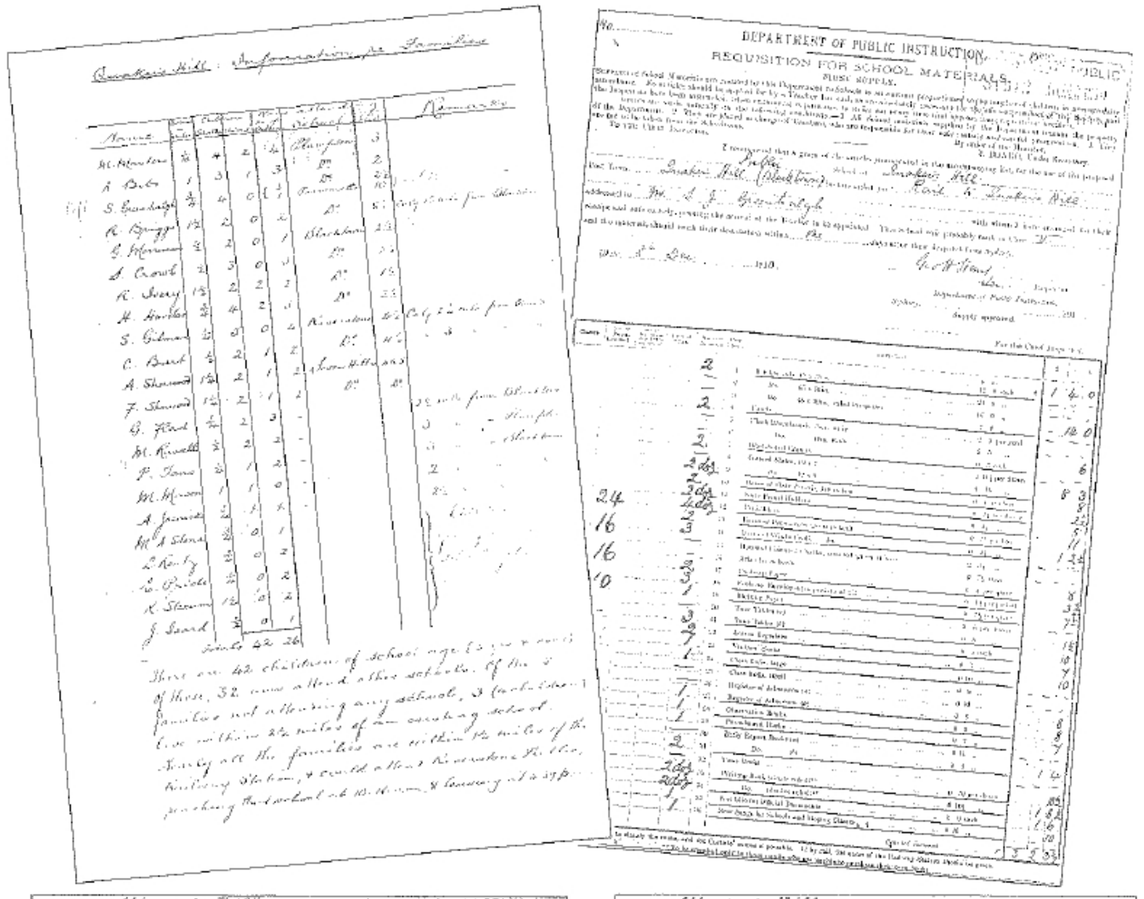

Quakers Hill. Information re Enrolment

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.
REQUISITION FOR SCHOOL MATERIALS.
PUBLIC SCHOOL.

Quakers Hill

Quakers Hill.
Establishment of a School.
Applying for

DEC 1911 • 38051 INSTRUCTION

Blacktown
27/11/11

J. C. Hunt Esq. M.L.A.
Parliament House.

Dear Mr Hunt,

I called a meeting of the residents of Quakers Hill last Saturday, and had a very good muster, & took the name of each family, and the number of children old enough to attend school i.e. 5 yrs & under age; We thought we have a school, and we must do all we can to get Head upon it. Mr Marlin has offered one acre of land in a central position for a school. I have the names of 6 gentlemen who are prepared to go down & build a cheap structure if necessary, but if not I would like water.

Thanking you we are
Yours truly
J. J. Pye

Acknowledged 28.11.11

Mr Senior Inspector Wright.
For report.
28/11/11
For S.S.

Quakers Hill.
Provision of another W.C. & tank.
Necessity for

DEPT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION • 38467 • 21 DEC 1912

Riverstone
May 8th 1912

Dear Sir

Quakers Hill. As the furniture has been sent along I would like to mention that it will be necessary to send a W.C. there as we already, what was sufficient for the little ones at the Sunday school in that district only has now been 4 daily each week also a proper fence for running room for the children. I shall be pleased to do anything I can to make the establishment of the School a success & will assure the department anything in the way of labour I shall only be too pleased to do.

I am
Yours Respectfully
H. Saundercock
S.S. Superintendent.

Adcorp Riverstone

Mr Senior Inspector Wright
For report
27.5.12

Councillor J.J. Pye then "took up the cause" and wrote to the then member for Parramatta Mr J.C. Hunt Esq. MLA to ask once again for a school on 27th November 1911. He explained that "a Mr Masters has offered an acre of land in a central position for a school".

This letter led to the establishment of a school in Osborne Road which was the Presbyterian Church Hall. The Sunday School Superintendent was Mr Henry Saundercock of Riverstone who was an auctioneer and commission agent and also an agent for Rickards & Co. (Grantham Estate). Inspector Wright was instructed to furnish a list of furniture required, first supply requisitions and also to obtain a lease of the hall on 22nd March 1912.

On 18th May 1912 permission was granted for a school to commence in Osborne Road.

Mr Henry Saundercock wrote to the Department on 21st May 1912 advising the necessity for the provision of another WC and "a small tank for drinking water for the children".

Miss Nellie Masters (who later married Richard Crowl) applied for the "situation as sewing mistress" but as the school was in the 6th class and only had an enrolment of thirty pupils, Miss Masters missed out on the position.

By 1st June 1912, a temporary teacher, a Mr Neville had "been appointed to the charge of the school at Quaker's Hill, in order to test the attendance". Mr Neville was still there on 26th September 1912 as he then applied for a cleaning allowance.

In October 1912 Mr George Cumming was appointed the **first principal** of Quaker's Hill School. Mrs Cumming attained the position of sewing mistress, but applied for leave from 7th October to 6th November as she was "suffering from an attack of measles". Mr & Mrs Cumming came from Toolejooa (near Gerringong to teach at Quaker's Hill and received for their removal expenses to Blacktown, the princely sum of eight pounds four shillings and seven pence. They later lived in Arnott Road.

Sarah Tinson made an application on 4th March 1913 to sit for an examination in Sydney (aged 18 years).

School was closed on 10th, 11th and 12th June 1913 due to "the heavy rain and flooded state of the country". The creek was flooded and children on the other side could not possibly cross, while those near at hand would have had to wade knee deep in water to get to school.

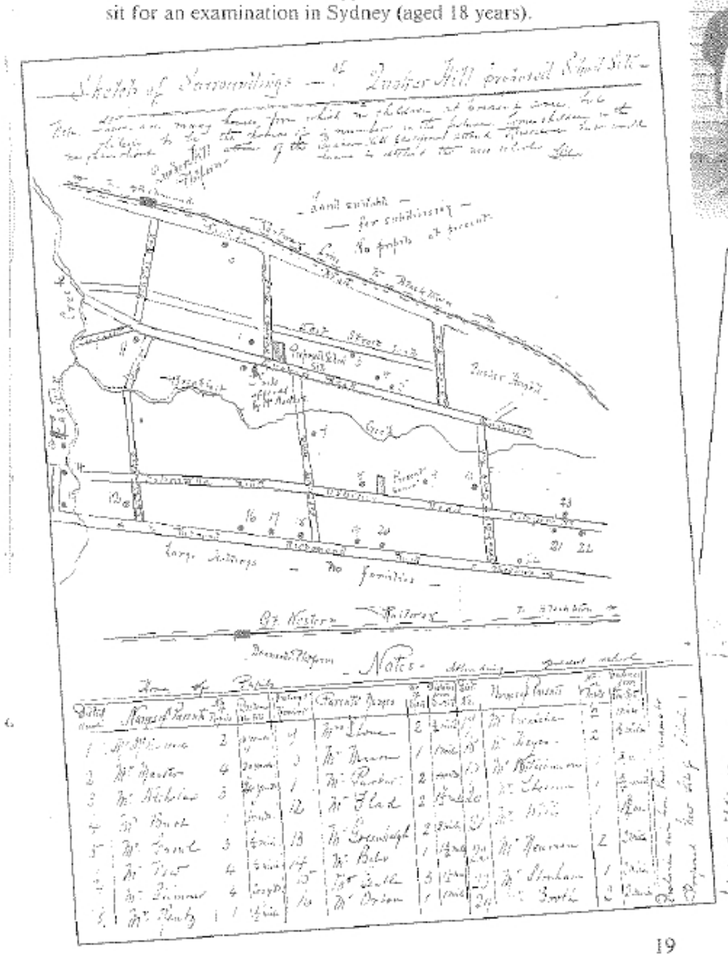
H. Gadsen, Honorary Secretary of Blacktown Progress Association wrote to the Minister of Education, urging the erection of a new building on the selected site as "the present building is overcrowded with scholars and is in a dilapidated condition and quite inadequate for school purposes" on 17th January 1914.

Mr J. McMurtrie, Secretary of the Quaker's Hill Progress Association, wrote a letter to J.C. Hunt MLA Esq., on 29th June 1914, pointing out the need for a larger school than the department proposed to erect, as there were 48 names on the roll and the building was only meant to accommodate 40 pupils. He added that the Intercolonial Invest Co., proposed to build "something like 50 homes". Recommendation by Inspector 'that site be purchased'. Mr A. Leake, Vale of Clwydd, Lithgow sold his 3 acres of land to the Department for twenty pounds per acre. A plan of the school was drawn up (see copy) and the first building was erected.

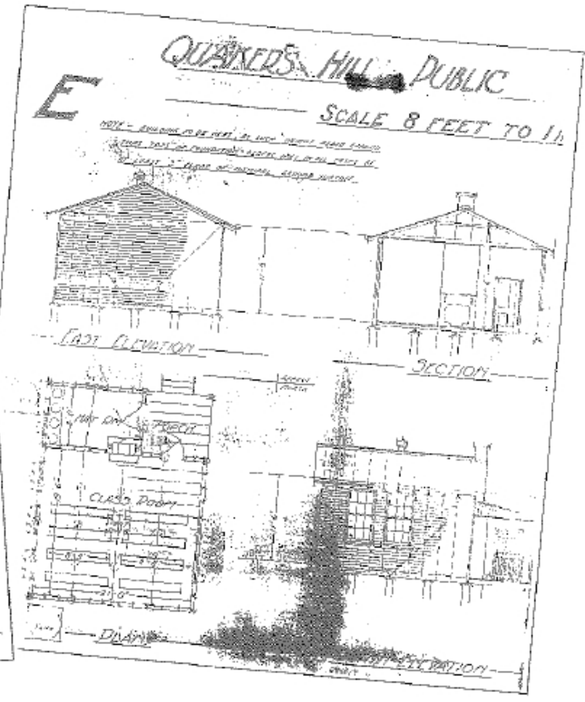
The old premises were vacated (Osborne Road) on Friday 30th October 1914.

New premises (present school Quaker's Road) occupied on Monday, 2nd November 1914. The building, since extended, still stands today.

Photo: Courtesy Marie Melinz (nee Wright). Quaker's Hill School 1914 which was situated at Osborne Road, Presbyterian Church.


Sketch of Surroundings of Quaker Hill proposed School Site

Notes


QUAKERS HILL PUBLIC SCHOOL
SCALE 8 FEET TO 1/8
EAST ELEVATION
SECTION
DRAINAGE